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Mr. Paul Marshall  
California Department of Water Resources  
1416 9th Street - 2nd Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Re: South Delta Improvement Project DEIR/S

Dear Mr. Marshall:

I am writing you to express my extreme concern about the continuing trend of water quality degradation in the San Francisco Bay, and it's drastic negative impact upon bay wildlife.

Thank you for soliciting public comments in response to the South Delta Improvement Project (SDIP) DEIR/S.

It makes no sense to move forward with a project that will divert more fresh water from the delta when delta fish populations are crashing. While scientists suspect several factors are responsible for the crash, most agree that water diversions are one of the most significant. Please withdraw the SDIP DEIR/S until the causes of the delta fish decline -- including water diversions -- are investigated and fully resolved.

California does not need to increase delta diversions to meet its current and future water needs. The state's own water plan proves that increased investments in urban and agricultural water use efficiency and reclamation can meet our needs well into the future.

At the minimum, the SDIP DEIR/S should consider an alternative that significantly reduces delta pumping from current levels, actually improves delta water quality and habitat, and protects fish.

Please include me on your mailing list to be notified of any decisions or activities concerning this project.

Sincerely,

  
Chris Hecht